Brandenburg to take *Bon* for the Archbiſhop of *Collen*. The *Dutch* are not often miſtaken: but now I think they were. For the Duke might have done both Himſelf and Them much better Service, by joyning Prince *Waldeck*, then by attacquing *Bon*. However we may ſee, that little particular Intereſts, whether true or fancied, do too often bear down the general. But away with theſe retailing Projects: a vigorous and powerful Invaſion would do all at once.

FINIS.

A

MODEST ENQUIRY

INTO THE

CAUSES

OF THE

Present Disasters

IN

ENGLAND.

And who they are that brought the FRENCH FLEET into the ENGLISH CHANNEL, Described.

LONDON:
Printed for **Richard Baldwin** in the *Old-Baily.*
M DC XC.

A

MODEST ENQUIRY

INTO THE

CAUSES

OF THE

PRESENT TROUBLES

IN

ENGLAND.

And who they are that brought the FRENCH
FLEET into the ENGLISH CHANNEL,
Detected.

LONDON:
Printed in Michaelmas Term in the 24th Year of
MDCXC.

A Modest Enquiry INTO THE Present MISCARRIAGES In *ENGLAND*, &c.

TO see the *French Masters at Sea*, and the *English* Glory thus sunk in the eyes of all *Christendom* by a Complication of *Disasters*, cannot but raise the Curiosity of all true Lovers of their Countrey, to enquire into the Source and Cause of so important Events. That we who have been able to make so great a Figure in the World, even long before the Accession of the Crown of *Scotland* to *Ours*, and to turn the Scale of *Europe* to whatever Side we espoused; and who have so often dyed with our Enemies Blood, the Fields of *France*, and ac-

quir'd ſo many Laurels in that Countrey, ſhould at this very moment be oblig'd to turn our Backs to that very *Enemy* whom we have ſo often beaten, and upon that very *Element* which Nature and the Poſſeſſion of ſome Ages had made properly *our own*; Who could ever have dream'd! Let us therefore enquire into the Cauſes of our preſent Misfortunes, and let us do it with that impartiality the Subject requires. It's but juſt the Authors and Abettors of *England*'s Miſeries, ſhould be retriev'd from Oblivion, and their Infamy ſhould be handed down to the unhappy Children, that ſhall have reaſon to curſe their Fathers Villanies and Treaſons.

England within theſe few years has been amuſed with *three* different *Plots*, and to be carried on by *three* different *Parties*; but at the *bottom*, we have had but *one Plot*, and that carried on & manag'd but by *two Parties*, in conſtant *Friendſhip* with one another. We firſt of all ſaw a *Popiſh one* laid open and diſcover'd, with as *demonſtrative clearneſs*, as ſuch Helliſh Works of Darkneſs could admit of. The King *ſeem'd*, and the Parliament and whole *Nation* did really *believe* the Reality of

this

this Plot. But within a little time these two unhappy Parties, the *Papists*, and the High-flown *Passive-Obedience men*, (both equally the cause of all our Woes) joyn'd hand in hand to turn this Popish Plot into ridicule; and by a complication of *Subornations*, *Intriegues*, and *Perjuries*, they at last got it hiss'd out of doors.

Then it was the Pulpits began to ring with Outcries against those *true blew Protestants* (as they and their admired *Buffoon*, *L'Estrange*, call'd them in derision) who had the saucinesse to endeavour the *Exclusion* of the then *Duke of York* from the *Crown*, as the only means to save *England* from a Ruin that threatned her. There was nothing at that time to be heard, in the most of our Churches, but *the Divine Right of Succession*; *the singular Loyalty of the Duke to his Brother*; *and the horridness of the Attempt to set so Pious so Generous so well-natur'd a Prince beside the Throne*: Yea, it was become a kind of Treason to dare to say, *He was a Papist*.

It was not enough the *Popish Plot* should be hiss'd off the stage; our two loving Parties employed their utmost diligence to sham the world with a *Whig Plot*, for so they christned

it) as the only proper method to revenge themselves upon the wise and more moderate part of the Nation, that had been more forward than others in the Discovery of the *Popish plot*. How this sham Protestant Plot was managed, and what Sacrifices were offered up to the Revenge of an *implacable Prince*, the barbarous Murther of the Earl of *Essex*, with the illegal Executions of the Lord *Russel*, *Algernon Sidney*, and many others, do speak out more than words can.

This *Whig Plot* was ecchoʼd in the *Pulpits* with all the villanous Names Hell could invent: And to be a *Whig*, was then a thousand times worse than to be a *Mahometan*. Every little Creature that had got into a Pulpit by the beneficence of a Patron, perhaps as silly as himself; though he could not sufficiently deserve his Ten or Twelve Pounds a year, unless he belchʼd out once a Sunday, all the stench he possibly could, against the poor Whigs; and indeed the so doing was the propereſt way to come to Preferment. Now under the Name of *Whig*, they comprehended then, as well as now, not only the Dissenters, but all those of the Clergy or Laicks, that came not up to that mad height of *theirs*, in

point

point of *Ceremonies*, *Passive-Obedience*, *Divine Right of Succession*, and the like.

King *Charles* being hurried off the Stage, God knows how; The *Duke of* York succeeds with the loud Acclamations of the two Parties I have named, and with the *submissive silence* of the rest of the Nation. Our High-flown Church-men strove, which of them understood the Art of Flattery best, in their Addresses to King *James*: And ev'ry *thirtieth of January* was solemniz'd with Peals of Ordnance from the Pulpits against the poor Whigs, for not only taking away the Life of the Father, but endeavouring to exclude the best, and the most pious Prince in the World, his Son, from the Succession, by that *accurs'd Bill of Exclusion*. Indeed this *Anniversary-day*, had something in it like the *Bacchanalia* of *Rome*, wherein Slaves and Servants might safely insult and hector their Masters: And it often fell out, that a silly Fellow, who by Importunity, and perhaps worse means, had gotten into a Living, durst on this *general Madding-day*, reproach to his Face his Patron that gave him Bread, meerly because he was either a Whig, or at least would not bellow out Reproaches against that side, as loud as others.

But

But alas ! poor King *James* ſoon loſt the kindneſs of theſe his former *Votaries:* For he who had been told every day, *He might do what he pleas'd, and was accountable to none but God*; thought He might ſafely venture to make tryal of the *Paſſive Obedience* of them that told him ſo. Here he was mightily miſtaken, and hence he may date all his Misfortunes. The Devil might much more juſtly ſay of theſe Paſſive Obedience Gentlemen, in relation to King *James*, than of *Job* of old, in relation to God Almighty; *Do they ſerve thee for nought? Haſt thou not made a hedge about them, and about their houſe, and about all that ever they have, on every ſide? But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that they have, and they will curſe thee to thy face* And as long as King *James* was careſſing them, and giving them not only good Words, but good Deeds, eſpecially *a belov'd power to trample on the Diſſenters*, Then it was, He *was the beſt King in the World:* But whenever his Jeſuited Counſellors hrd advis'd him to infringe in the leaſt theſe mens Priviledges, Then their Complaints of King *James* were heard further off than *England*, and the very Nations abroad were deafen'd with the noiſe

of

of their trifling Afflictions, and indeed more they were not, if compar'd with what other People met with from that Prince's *Miniſters.*

Then was there nothing heard of among theſe Gentlemen, *but how far the King had broken his Oath to maintain the Church of* England, and how far he had invaded their *Liberties* and *Priviledges*, but eſpecially in *allowing a Toleration to the Diſſenters.* For a Toleration to Papiſts alone, they would eaſily have ſwallowed; but that the Diſſenters (whom in their Pulpits they had a thouſand times over call'd worſe than the Papiſts) ſhould be free from their Clutches, and ſhould enjoy a perfect freedom from their Cenſures, was a thing intollerable to them. Their ſecret Murmurings broke out at length into open Complaints; And in fine, His preſent Majeſty, the then *Prince of Orange*, could get no reſt from their Importunities; But come over he muſt, and *ſettle things on a ſure bottom*: And it was they who were moſt active in inviting him over to *England.*

The Prince from a Generous Principle of Zeal for the Proteſtant Religion, which was indeed by this time on the brink of Ruine, and

which

which none had haſtened more forward than our *high-flown Paſſive-obedience Men*; He *undertook* an *Enterprize* of the great'ſt *Conſequence* that this *Age* has ſeen, and ventur'd his *All*, to retrieve *three Nations* from a fate that impended over them. The beſt and ſobereſt part of the *Nation* roſe for *His Majeſty* upon his landing; and who prov'd more *forward* than *ſome* of *our Paſſive-obedience Men themſelves* at that time? Not only they declar'd for him, not only addreſs'd they K. *James* for a Parliament in order *to Pinion Him*, which is all *one* on the matter as to *dethrone Him*; but likewiſe upon that King's going away, they meet with the reſt of *the Peers and Members of Parliament*, and joyntly invite the *Prince* to take upon him the *Government*, and to exerciſe a *Power* that wanted *nothing of a King*, but the *Name*.

One would have thought that *Party*, and the *Gentleman* at *Lambeth*, their *Head*, had been very *cordial* in *bringing about this Revolution*, ſince they went as far as any of their *Neighbours* at firſt in all the ſteps of it. But alas! We were miſtaken, theſe *worthy Gentlemen* had other aims than we knew of. They concurr'd in the inviting the Prince of *Orange* over to *England*; in declaring for him after

he

he came; and in fine, in addreſſing him to take upon him the *Government* in ſo difficult Juncture. But this was all in order to make uſe of the P. of *Orange's Name, Power and Intereſt*, to bring about the Redreſs of *their trifling Grievances.* That *Prince* they were reſolv'd to make but a *Tool* of for their little ſelf-ends, whereof one was *the utter abaſing of the poor Diſſenters*, and laying them at their mercy. I confeſs I cannot but laugh at the inſupportable *Folly* of theſe *unthinking Creatures*, that could imagine, the P. of *Orange*, who made ſo great a Figure in *Europe*, and whoſe preſence was of ſo great neceſſity on the *Continent*, could be impos'd upon to come over to *England* in the heart of *Winter*, amidſt a thouſand *Dangers*, and at a vaſt *Charge*, and that meerly to faſten, forſooth, *a tottering Pillar or two in the Cathedral of* Canterbury, *or the Chappel of* Lambeth. That Illuſtrious Prince was born for greater Glories than theſe; and thoſe poor Monkiſh Stateſmen are not able to fathom the *Genie* of a *Heroe.*

No reward but that of the Crown was ſufficient for the mighty favour the Prince had done us, in delivering us from *Popery* and *Slavery*; And there was indeed no other means left to aſſure us of ſafety, in ſo perplexing an Event, as

that of K. *James*'s going away, and the Consequences that did attend it. But to set the *Crown* upon the head of a *Prince*, who being brought up in Foreign Church, they suppos'd would prove no blind Bigot to Theirs, was a thing our *High Priest* and the rest of the *Gang* could not bear. A *Popish Prince*, so be it he would grant them a high hand over the *Protestant Dissenters*, they would rather trust on the Throne, that a *Protestant One*, who they knew would never consent to such Practices.

And here I would fain know of our *Lambeth Holy Club*, what mighty difference there is betwixt the Inviting a Foreign Prince to Invade by Arms the Right of their *Jure Divino* King (as they call King *James*) and thereafter Addressing that Prince to accept of a Power, which only belongs in their sense to Kings; and that of Swearing Obedience to that same Prince after he is actually Declared and Constituted King by the Nobility and Representatives of the People? How comes it that these Gentlemen were so free to do the first, and think it so unpardonable a sin to do the last? It's with conferring of Crowns, as with another Civil Contract, of which the Law says, *Multa impediunt Matrimonium contrahendum, quæ non destruunt contractum:*

tractum: Many things may hinder a Marriage from being at first entred into, which cannot dissolve it after it's consummated. So many things might have been said to hinder the Crown from being conferred upon his Majesty, which cannot have any place now, after he is by Act of Parliament setled in the Throne. And to any body, but these that are wilfully ignorant, the Inviting and Assisting his Majesty against the late King, before the Crown was conferr'd upon him, was a greater Invasion of their darling Principle of *Passive Obedience*, than the Swearing to him after he is declared and acknowledged King by the Parliament.

The King and Queen being thus setled on the Throne, we have immediately the effects of these mens inconstancy expresst in a *Third Plot*, whereof we are now principally to treat: Which has been managed principally by the disaffected Clergy and Laicks; for the Papists have really the least share in it. The first step the Clergy made, was the writing *against the taking the new Oaths to their Majesties, enjoyn'd them by Act of Parliament*; and the buzzing into the Ears of their poor ignorant Votaries, the *Unlawfulness of those Oaths, and the continuing Right of King James to the Crown.*

This piece of their Artillery, it was thought would have done some considerable Execution; But alas! a great many of the Gentlemen themselves who had been industrious to persuade others to refuse the Oaths, they could so little digest the loss of their *Livings*, as they chose rather to take these unlawful Oaths (as they call'd them) than to expose themselves to the least Suffering. And I remember a pretty story of a *Reverend Divine* in the *North* on this occasion: He had damn'd to Hell in his Sermons, all that rose for King *William*, before he was declar'd King; and ever after he was declar'd and Crown'd, to this very day, would never pray for him: He had in all Companies, but more especially among those of his own Character, exclaim'd against the taking the Oaths, and told them over and over again, that he had rather beg than take them: His Insinuations, and (as they expected) his Example, prevail'd with a great many of the poor *Parsons* and *Curates* of the Country, to let the time expire that was appointed for taking the Oaths. But the Gentleman himself, the very last night of the prefixed time, comes stealing in to the Magistrates of the Town where he lived, and takes them without any Scruple. But enough of this worthy Divine. There

There being very few of our disaffected Clergy that had the Courage to lay down their Places for the Oaths, the next step of the Plot was, to cheat the World and their own Consciences with a ridiculous and foolish distinction of taking the Oaths to a King *de facto*, but not *de jure*. The design of this Distinction was first to salve their own Consciences, and to vindicate themselves from the Reproaches of their Comerades, who had absolutely refused to take the Oaths. And 2*ly*, To bear it in upon the minds of the people, That their Majesties were not Lawful and Rightful King and Queen of *England*, but *de facto* only, that is, in plain *English*, *Downright Usurpers*. This was so little adverted to, even by some of the honest Clergy, that in several of their Writings for *taking the Oaths*, they seemed to grant the distinction; which was indeed upon the matter, a granting the Question, tho these worthy Persons had no ill intentions in it. And indeed what could be more efficacious to alienate the hearts of the People from Their Majesties, than either to suppose them King and Queen *de facto* only, or to buzze into the Peoples ears, that in Swearing Allegiance to them, they thereby acknowledge no lawful Right to the

Crown

Crown to be in their Perſons. This diſtinction did not only give them ſcope to take the Oaths to their Majeſties, but alſo to pray for them *by Name* in their Pulpits. But yet ſome of them, of more ſincerity than the reſt, would not pray for them by Name at all; and yet to prevent any trouble from the Law, they wiſely pray'd in *general Terms for the King and Queen*. Here was a pretty way of playing faſt and looſe with God Almighty: He might take it in what ſenſe he pleaſed; either for King *James* and Queen *Mary*, or King *William* and Queen *Mary*: And thus both God Almighty, and the Act of Parliament were ſatisfied. Others of a more nice ſtomach yet, would not pray for *the King and Queen*, but for *the King and the Royal Family*: A rare maſter-piece of wit! The word *King* takes in either King *William* or King *James*, and the *Royal Family* takes in all: And ſo be ſure, the *Parſon* muſt hit right one way or other.

The next ſtep of the Plot was this; The Act of Parliament enjoyning the Oaths to their Majeſties, it ſeems, admits of ſome favourable Interpretation in Law, upon the part of thoſe *that only Preach, but have no Cure of Souls*. Before they came to find out this noble Invention, the Plot was lame, becauſe the Machines

that

that moved it, were debarr'd from the Pulpits, where their Train would take beſt. The whiſpering in Corners was only ſmall ſhot, but the Thunders from the Pulpit, would certainly do mighty Execution; and no fitter place to erect a Battery, than upon a Velvet Cuſhion

Some wiſe Lawyers having found out this happy Defect in the *Act* of Parliament, one of the greateſt Champions was detach'd from the Body of the Army, to beat the Road, and try this new Experiment. And then D. *S.* with the loud Acclamations of the *Party*, mounts the Chair firſt; and as an Introduction to his Sermons, gives his Auditory an account of the happy Diſcovery he had made, of ſo great a Bleſſing to Mankind; *as his having Liberty to Preach to them, notwithſtanding the Act of Parliament about taking the Oaths.*

This *Achilles* was followed by a great number of leſſer *Mermidons*; who partly by ſtealth, and partly by the Pious Zeal of ſome of their own ſort of *Church-Wardens*, got up into ſome Pulpits in *London*, and a great many more in the Country; where they were led about in Triumph. This was a down-right Invaſion on the *Act of Parliament*; for it was never the meaning of the *Lawgivers*, that only the *Cure*

of

of Souls ſhould fall under the compaſs of the *Act*, and that that thoſe who would not take the Oaths, might have leave to Preach, and thereby *Trumpet up the People to a Diſſatisfaction with the Government.*

All theſe *ſteps* of the *Plot*, were to be back'd with another *Engine* of theirs; and that was the publiſhing to the World, *The Hiſtory of Paſſive Obedience.* In order to this *Maſter-piece* of Learning (for ſo muſt certainly a bare Collection of other Mens Writings be) a *Reverend Club* meets at *L.* where they muſter up a great many Expreſſions of *Engliſh* Divines, both Ancient and Modern, to eſtabliſh their Notion of *Paſſive-Obedience.* Although the moſt of the Citations of this Pamphlet, be far wide of the Queſtion, and refer only to Obedience to Magiſtracy in general, and the unlawfulneſs of private Perſons, their riſing up againſt the Government upon every frivolous pretext: Yet this ſilly *Pamphlet* was handed about in Triumph among the *Party*; and it was a Damnable Sin, for any of the *Gang* to want it off his Table; yet many times the Bible that lay there before for faſhion, was removed to give place to this new Gueſt.

*B*ut alas! All that's paſt, was but ſmall drops

drops before the Deluge of Rain, that ſucceed-ed. The next Engine of the *Plot* is the happy Reſult of a kind of *Oeconomick Council* of the whole Party: The Liturgy of the Church of *England* muſt be laid aſide, and a new one muſt be calculated for the Meridian of King *James*'s *Tottering Fortune*: And the greateſt wonder of all, is, that the *Council* who publiſh'd this new Liturgy, did not uſher it in with, *It ſeems good to the Holy Ghoſt, and to us.*

In this new Liturgy they inſinuate to the world, That in effect, all that are for Their Majeſties Intereſt, were *without King, without Prieſt, and without God in the world.* A dreadful Doom, before a terrible Tribunal! None are indeed at this rate, within the compaſs of the Church, but this *Holy Jacobite Club*, and their followers. But let us hear the very words of this part of the Liturgy; *Reſtore us again* (ſay they) *the Publick Worſhip of thy name, the Reverend Adminiſtrations of thy Sacraments; raiſe up the former Government both in Church and State, that we may be no longer without King, without Prieſt, and without God in the world.*

But the loudeſt blaſt of their Trumpet, we meet with, when they come to Pray for the late King *James*; it's here the *Holy Club* has ex-

hausted all their Rhetorick and Zeal, in the following words. *Send forth (say they) thy light and thy truth, and let them preserve us. Protect and defend thy servant our Sovereign Lord the King. O prepare thy loving Mercy and Faithfulness, that they may preserve him. Strengthen his hands, and the hands of all that are put in Authority under him, with Judgment and Justice to cut off all such workers of Iniquity as turn Religion to Rebellion, and Faith into Faction* (a pretty gingling of the Letters, mightily conducing to the force of the Prayer). *That they may never prevail against us, or triumph in the ruin of thy Church among us. To this end defend the King, bind up his soul in the bundle of life, and let no weapon form'd against him prosper. Be unto him a helmet of Salvation, and a strong Tower of Defence against the face of his Enemies. Let his Reign be prosperous, and his days many. Make him glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted him, and for the years wherein thou hast made him suffer Adversity. Give him the Necks of his Enemies, and also every day more and more the Hearts of his Subjects. As for those that are implacable, cloath them with shame, but upon himself and his Posterity* (that is, the Prince of *Wales*) *let the Crown flourish.* I have been at the pains to copy out

thus

thus much of the Prayer, that we may thereby see in what a *Praying frame* the Gentlemen were, when they compos'd it: And the truth is, I do not remember we ever saw them so transported with an *extatick fit* of Zeal, in all their Prayers for King *James*, when he was upon the Throne.

The *General Council* having thus compos'd this new Liturgy, there were above 10000 of them printed and dispersed up and down among the Party. And to this very day they use them in their *Cabals*, laying aside a great part, and sometimes all the old Liturgy: For alas! the old Liturgy comes not up to the heat and zeal of this new one; and how many old women are become very devout upon it, that had almost been worn out of all love for the Old one, many years ago; especially if they have any little odd mony to spare to the poor distrest Clergy, that have left their places for pure Conscience sake.

Now at the very time the great Guns of these new Prayers are thus furiously playing, the *Club* are working a Mine under ground, to widen the breach, in order to a *General Assault*. There are a great many of King *James*'s Officers, and other well-wishers about Town,

that must be taken care of, until things be ready for a final Insurrection, wherein there will be use for them. To this effect, there are so many of the *Holy Club* detatch'd up and down, to persuade monied people who wish well to the Cause, to contribute for the subsistence of these cashier'd Gentlemen. There are no inconsiderable Sums of Money Levied and Paid out upon that account; among the Collectors of which, there must be one fellow that eat King *William*'s Bread. And certainly it were worth the while, to be present at one of the Meetings of the General *L.* Club, to hear what extraordinary fine persons they extend their Care and Charity to, upon this account; and to learn the little arts these great Statesmen put in practice, to persuade the silly old women to tell down their Dust, for carrying on so pious a work.

But now I come to the main points of this noble Contrivance, and it may indeed be called *The Plot* by way of Eminence; all that went before, being but an Introduction to it. His Majesty from a Noble and Boundless Courage, will needs venture his Person once more for the safety of these Kingdoms, and His Journey to *Ireland* is concluded upon: In order

der to this Expedition, the moſt and the better Diſciplin'd part of the Army are to attend His Majeſty; And it will be impoſſible to leave any conſiderable Force behind him in his abſence. Likeas the Tranſportation of the Queen of *Spain*; and the Convoy of the *Streights* Merchant-men, had carried a conſiderable part of our Fleet to the *Mediterranian*: And another part of it was to attend His Majeſty and the Army to *Ireland*: So that our Fleet was not to be ſo conſiderable, as otherwiſe it would have been.

All theſe Circumſtances raiſed the Courage of our *Plotters*; and now was the only and fitteſt time to *give the blow*: In order to which, their mighty Patron the *French King* muſt be induc'd to act a conſiderable, and in effect, the moſt dangerous part. They knew, that his own Intereſt was linked intirely with that of King *James*'s; and that it concerned as much the *French* King in this Juncture, to ſupport King *James*, and to maintain a War againſt King *William* in his own Kingdoms, as if the Kingdom of *France* it ſelf were at the ſtake. The *French* King, from long cuſtom, knew how to improve his Gold in *England* to advantage, and many a conſiderable return had he made

made of that ſort of trade. Our Plotters knew beſt the *Genius* of the people, and where to beſtow this Gold to the beſt advantage. They had been well acquainted with all the Villanies and Treacheries of the laſt two Reigns; becauſe ſome of them had a conſiderable ſhare in them: And they wiſely conſidered, that if they, by ſome *French* Gold could gain Offices or Places, to thoſe of their own Party, then they would be Maſters of all the Secrets of the Nation: And it ſhould be their own fault if they improved not the Intelligence they might have from them, to the forwarding King *James*'s affairs.

It was not only Places and Offices, *wherein Intelligence is properly to be had*, but even thoſe in the *Fleet* and elſewhere, our Plotters expected to have men of their own Stamp put in, with their Gold: And whether they fail'd in the laſt or not, I cannot tell; ſure if they did, it was not for want of Pains or Money, for they ſpar'd neither.

The King being gone; *Admiral Killegrew* being in the Streights; and Sir *Clouſely Shouel* in St. *George*'s *Channel*; And the *Holland Squadron* not yet joyn'd ours, nor *ours* fully met: Then was the time for our *Plotters* to put their

their long-thought on design in Execution. In order to which, at one of their *General Meetings* in *London*, where it was necessary some of the *Clergy* should be present to Bless so Pious a Work; it was concluded to give in a *Memorial* in Name of *the Loyal and Distrest Subjects of England*, (for so they nam'd themselves) to his Most Christian Majesty; Humbly Inviting him out of his extraordinary Goodness, and for the Affection he always bore to oppress Virtue, That he would assist them in restoring Their lawful King, His Ancient Ally and Confederate, to his Throne; and in breaking the Yoak of Usurpation, under which these three Nations were at this time so heavily Groaning. But it will be absolutely fit here to insert the very Words of their Memorial it self, as it has been discover'd by a certain Person of late, and as it was express't in the *French* Tongue, in which it was Originally written, and given in.

The

The MEMORIAL is thus.

To the Most Serene and Most Invincible Prince, *Lewis* the Great, His Most Christian Majesty; The Memorial of the Loyal and Distrest Noblemen, Clergy, Gentlemen, and others of all Ranks within the Kingdoms of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, at present under the Fetters of a Cruel Usurpation.

Great and Invincible Monarch:

THE Resplended Rayes of Your Majesties Virtues, have render'd all the World your Adorers: And that Inherent Goodness of which Your Majesty stands so transcendently possest, does render You the only Sanctuary of all the distrest. It's in the Confidence which this Your Unparrellel'd goodness gives us, That we in all Humble Duty, presume to lay our sighs at Your Majesties feet: And that we Implore Your Royal Favour and Assistance, to rid us out of the great and insupportable Afflictions we lye under at present.

It's in your Royal Arms and Bounty, we repose our Hope and Confidence; and expect to see Our Lawful King, Your Ancient Friend and Ally, re-

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ſtor'd to the rightful Throne of his Anceſtors, out of which wicked men have thruſt him. And becauſe this is the moſt proper time for your Majeſty to aſſiſt us with the aſſured expectation of ſucceſs, we have preſum'd to lay before you the preſent favourable Circumſtances, that do concur to make your Majeſties glorious Enterprize the more eaſie; which are principally theſe.

1. *The Prince of Orange, the Uſurper, is juſt now on his journey to* Ireland; *And being once arriv'd in that Kingdom, if a part of Your Majeſties Fleet were able to block up St.* George's *Channel, the Uſurper's Army would certainly be ſtarv'd, being that all their Proviſions come by Sea from* Scotland *and* England; *And that that part of the Countrey they are Maſters of, is already haraſs'd and ruin'd by both Armies, both the laſt year and this.*

2. *The Uſurper has partly ſent before, and partly takes along with himſelf, the whole, almoſt, and the better Diſciplin'd part of the Army: And leaves behind him but a very few of the* Engliſh *Regiments; who ſerve him more out of neceſſity and fear, than out of any Love to him, or to the Intereſt.*

3. *The Forces he leaves behind, are ſo very few, that they are ſcarce capable to keep Guards in the* Tower, *the* Savoy, Somerſet-Houſe *and at* White-Hall *all together: And the three Regiments,*

that are sent for out of Holland, *will not be yet ready for some weeks to embark; neither is it thought they will stir a foot, because of want of Pay. Likeas both Officers and Soldiers are not entirely Devoted to the Usurpers Interest, the most of them being in the Service of our Lawful King, before he was necessitated to leave us.*

4. *Most of our Fleet are at so great distance one from another, that they cannot this year make any considerable body. There being the best and ablest Seamen and Ships with* Killegrew *in the* Streights, *and with* Shouel *in St.* George's *Channel, amounting together to more than Nineteen Ships of War.*

5. *There are likewise imploy'd for Convoys, about the* Western *Coasts of* Scotland, *to the number of 5 or 6 Ships, all separately.*

6. *The* Dutch *Squadron is in no appearance to be here to join ours of a sudden; both because they are not yet in a readiness, and that the Admirals of* Holland *make scruple, and are highly discontented to serve under our* English *Admiral. Moreover, tho they were join'd us, they will but make up at the most twenty Sail of Ships; and them none of the best, considering their tallest and best mann'd Ships are out upon Convoys.*

7. *Our own Fleet is very ill mann'd, and the Soldiers and Seamen extremely discontented for want of their*

their Pay; and ſeveral of the Officers were thoſe that belonged to our King before he went away.

There are *Five* more *Articles* in this *Memorial*, that for certain Reaſons I will not Copy out; only I'll tell the Reader, they are of piece with the reſt, and full as ill. Here are ſome truths, but a great many more lyes; and ſuch as none but People of their gang could be capable of. And if the Readers Curioſity tempt him to be very inquiſitive how this *Memorial* came to light; let him wait but a little, and perhaps he will ſee both it, and the *Deliverers* and *Contrivers* of it, made publick enough.

It might be thought ſtrange, that this *General Council* ſhould venture their Credit, to invite the *French* King over to *England* upon no better or ſurer grounds; for by the by, the Deſign of the Memorial, was to bring them over, and there had been ſome two or three other Memorials before this, over and above a conſtant Correſpondence betwixt the *French* Miniſter *Monſieur de Croiſie*, and them. But the very truth is, The *Clergy*, who were the great Contrivers and Managers of this, and who by their Profeſſion are for the moſt part extra-

ordinarily credulous of any thing they incline to, did really believe, that immediately upon the appearing of the *French* Fleet, and the burning of ours (which they thought as sure) there would certainly be a general *Insurrection* through a great many places of the Kingdom, in order to join them at their Landing, and to Declare for King *James*. They knew how busie they themselves had been to buzze into the ears of all People they had any Intereſt with, jealousies of the Government; and the reasonableness of calling back a Prince, that was by an unalterable *Divine Right*, their King. They knew how busie they had been in every corner, to whisper the great and heavy Taxes the Kingdom lay under in this Reign; and how greatly Trade was decay'd of late. When in the mean time these Wretches were Conscious to themselves, That we had given more to King *Charles* to throw away upon his Whores, than we had given to King *William* to reduce *Ireland* to the Crown of *England*. They likewise knew, that the Dissenters had been of late a little disoblig'd by the continuing the *Sacramental Test*, and by the 500 *l. Bill*, and some other things that seem'd very hard, considering their hearty affection to

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King *William*'s Intereſt. They knew that ſome of the moſt moderate part of the Church of *England*, called *Whigs*, had met with ſome mortifications of late, in the *Elections for Parliament*, but more eſpecially in the *change of the Lieutenancy of London*. They were alſo pretty well acquainted with the temper of ſome men in Offices both in the *Lieutenancy* and *Militia*, who had gone a conſiderable length in the high-flown courſes of the late Reign: And they were eaſily induc'd to think, that they who had gone the greateſt length in betraying the Liberties of the City of *London*, and in *packing up Juries*, and the like, could never be cordial Friends to the preſent *Government*. All which things prevail'd with theſe new kind of *Stateſmen*, to believe, that a *general Inſurrection* in *England*, was one of the eaſieſt things of a thouſand; conſidering the Abſence of the King, and ſome other things mentioned in the *Memorial*. But they counted without their hoſt; and whether out of fear, or want of Power, none of the Male-contents of *England* durſt ſtir a foot in the Cauſe they wiſh'd ſo well to.

The *French* King giving ear to the *Repreſentations* and *Importunities* of theſe Gentlemen, put all his Wit on the rack to get money to equip

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the greateſt *Fleet* that ever that Nation ſet to Sea; and at a vaſt charge he brought the *Thoulon Squadron* round the whole Continent of *Spain*, and through the *Streights*, to join his *Breſt* Fleet. He left not behind, one Seaman that could be found in *France*, and ſcarce one Ship more of any Force, in all his *Harbours*. Upon the notice given him by his Truſty *Penſioners* here, he directs this *French Armado* ſtraight for the Iſle of *Wight*, where our Fleet was to rendezvous; and if it had but arrived there ſome few days before it came, we had not had Twenty Ships together at that place: Yet ſo near were we to ruin, that albeit our Fleet was become by that time pretty ſtrong, and the moſt of the Ships arriv'd; yet if Heaven had not turned the Wind in a moment, they had every one of them, in all probability, been burn'd at Anchor. The *French* Fleet paſſing in ſight of *Weymouth*, the *Mayor* of that place did very wiſely diſpatch two Expreſſes, one for the Queen, and another for my *Lord Torrington*, the Admiral: But the Wind blowing a fair freſh Gale, the *French* Fleet had certainly been amidſt ours, before the *Weymouth* Expreſs could poſſibly reach *Portſmouth*, if the Wind had continued but ſome hours longer.

longer. Our Fleet being in this imminent, and almoſt inevitable hazard, and the *French* being within a few Leagues of them, the Wind in an inſtant turn'd about, and put a ſtop to their deſign'd and eaſie Victory, by obliging them to lye by.

This happy Providence counter-acted all the Plots of our Enemies both at Home and Abroad; and we had time given us to prevent the Deſtruction that threatned us. And to compleat the Mercy, it fell out, that at that very preciſe time this hapned, there was a full Diſcovery made by ſome Perſons here, who had been concerned in the Plot all along, of their whole Affairs and Tranſactions both with *France*, and at Home.

We read of one of the Nations of *Aſia*, that when any ſignal Misfortune befals their State, they immediately thereupon offer up to their angry Deities ſome of their Prieſts, as a Sacrifice to atone their Wrath; becauſe, ſay they, *Thoſe Prieſts ought to have taught us how to have pleaſed the Gods, ſo as not to provoke them to inflict ſuch judgments upon us.* The truth is, it's a wonder the *Engliſh* Nation, upon the affront that has befallen them, in being forc'd to turn their backs to the *French* at Sea, have

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not in their fury *De-Witted* ſome of thoſe men who have brought all this upon us, both by Inviting the *French*, and by the Intreagues they have manag'd at home: And I muſt tell them, that the Crimes of the Two unhappy Brothers in *Holland* (which gave riſe to that word) were not fully ſo great, as thoſe of ſome of them; and yet their Puniſhment has been one of the ſevereſt that any Criminals ever met with in this Age.

I am very inclinable to believe, that all the Officers and Seamen of the Fleet have been Proof againſt the Inſinuations of our *Plotters*; and that they have not yielded to the Temptations of *French* Gold; tho at the ſame time, I do not doubt, they have been aſſaulted with both: And if ſo, the wonder is the greater, if it be true, that is talked ſo freely up and down, That a great many of the Officers have bought their Places with money. It's hard to believe that there are any ſuch practices in *England*, as the buying and ſelling Places, eſpecially thoſe in the *Fleet*, upon which depend both the Saftety and Glory of *England*: But if any ſuch thing be, then the *Retreat* we have been forc'd to make, will certainly open the eyes of our Governous, to ſee th- mighty

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and almoſt irrecoverable prejudices that attend ſuch ſlaviſh methods of getting Commands; and will put them upon employing fit Perſons, in *whoſe Fidelity and Valour we may ſafely truſt.* Altho I be far from vindicating the late *Uſurpation* of *Cromwell*, yet I cannot but admire the choice he made of brave and skilful Commanders in the *Fleet*; under the conduct of whom, *England* got ſo much Glory in the War againſt the *Dutch*: Over and above their Valour and Skill, Thoſe Commanders both in their Practice and by their Orders, kept up the ſtricteſt Diſcipline among their Soldiers; and if there was any immoralities committed amongſt them, it was by ſtealth, and not in face of the Sun. It's to be confeſs'd, it's very hard for ſome men to reſiſt the Temptations of deprav'd Nature, and they are to be in ſome meaſure pitied, when they do it in a manner that expreſſes their ſhame of it. But when men commit the groſſeſt immoralities in the open view of the world; it is in it ſelf an outbraving of God Almighty, and a virtual denying of his Juſtice, or of his Power to exert it. And it's ſtrange how any can dare to expect ſucceſs from Heaven, when they are openly declaring War againſt it, by their

avowed Impieties. And I am afraid, we wait for Succeſs in vain, as long as in our Armies and Navies, among our Officers and Soldiers, there is not a Reformation, at leaſt of open Immoralities.

But to return to the *French* Expedition: Our Murmurers and Plotters were ſtrangely elevated with the expectation of its Succeſs. In their fond imaginations King *James* was already at *White-Hall*; and ſome of them were publickly in Coffee-houſes acting the part of a Herauld, in Marſhalling his Triumphant entry into *London*. Never was our new Liturgies, I ſpoke of, ſo threadbare as now, with being ſo often ſaid over and over again in private meetings of the Party: And the ordinary ſubject of their diſcourſe was, the *Greatneſs and Magnanimity of the* French *King*, *the number and force of his Fleet*, *the weakneſs of ours*; and ſometimes *defect of His Majeſties forces in Ireland*, to keep them in heart. Their Impudence was arriv'd at that height, that in *open Exchange*, one of the long Robe was pleaſed to ſay with relation to the *Hollanders* loſs in the late Engagement at Sea, That *they were well paid off for the Preſent they had ſent us ſome twenty months ago.*

But that none of that Party may want the

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due Praise their Writings deserve, I'll give the Reader a *Dedication* made by one of them (and him of the long Robe too) to the *French* King not many Months since, when the Plot was just upon the wheel, and which for the Nobleness of the stile I must commend, tho the matter of it be downright Blasphemy. *Immortalitati & Æternitati, Nominis & Numinis Lodovici Magni, Galliarum Imperatoris, Clementis, Victoris, Felicis, semper Augusti, ob Egregiam Pietatem & Regiam munificentiam, erga Afflictos Principes Brittannicos, nomine Brittaniarum Insularum*, hosce Versiculos Anglice *conscriptos, humillime consecrat.* In *English* thus; *To the Immortality and Eternity of the Name and Divinity of* Lewis *the Great Emperor of* France, *Victorious, Happy, Merciful, Allwise, August; in acknowledgment of his Royal goodness and bounty towards the afflicted Princes of* Brittain, *These Verses Written in* English, *are in name of the* British *Isles most humbly Consecratated by*, &c. Thus we see how far an *English Jacobite* can outvy a *French* Poet himself, in the art of *Blasphemous Flattery.*

But how soon are all these kind of Peoples hopes laid in the dust, upon the arrival of the news of His Majestis Glorious Victories in *Ireland*? and how far has it counterpois'd the

joy they had some days ago for the Action between the two Fleets? A little time will shew, that notwithstanding of all they have done to Ruin him, no body will be more forward than they to fawn upon his Majesties good Fortune, whenever once they are quite out of hopes of King *James's* retrieving his. But sure the Government will be Wiser, than ever to dart any of its warm beams upon such kind of Creatures, any farther than to let them live the Scorn of all Honest men, and the Hatred of every one that loves their Countrey and their Religion.

Thus have I given some of the Reasons of the late Disasters (if I may call them so) which we have met with, within these few days in *England*, tho they are more than made up by our wonderful Success in *Ireland*; yet I must call it a Disaster, to be obliged to retire without obtaining a full Victory over the *French*, and to see the *Dutch* Squadron receive so great a Damage, without being able to come up to their Assistance. And the consideration of this, has forc'd from me some Expressions against the Authors and Abettors of these Misfortunes, that perhaps I would otherwise have spared: And I attest God to

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witneſs, that nothing but Love to my Country and Religion, to Their Majeſties Perſons and Government, has extorted them from me.

When I have ſpoken ſo much againſt the Practices of our diſcontented Clergy; both Reaſon, and my own Inclination, do oblige me to admire and praiſe the wiſe and pious Conduct of that part of the Clergy who have been true to their Country, and to their Religion, and have not (as ſome others of their Character) reſiſted the Mercies of God, that has been wonderfully manifeſted in delivering us from Popery and Slavery; but who by their Precepts and Example, have excited their People to receive theſe Mercies with all the juſt return of thanks. God forbid, that I ſhould be ſo unhappy, as to be miſtaken in any of the Reflections I have been obliged to make of the Carriage of ſome of that Order; or, that I ſhould be thought to derogate in the leaſt from the ſingular Learning, Piety, and Zeal, that ſhine viſibly among the Divines of the Church of *England*, by any thing I have ſaid againſt thoſe, who are indeed a reproach to that Church. I muſt confeſs, there is one thing that has mightily provoked me againſt theſe Male-contents, and that is, their venomous

mous and ill-natur'd Reflections, both in their Discourses and *Libels*, against some of the first Luminaries of the Church, whose Books they are not worthy to bear; and that meerly upon the account of their Affection to the present Government. And altho these Reverend and Excellent Persons, are pleased by a Miracle of good Nature, to suffer their Follies and Impertinencies; I know no reason why others, that have not the Honour to be of that Sacred Order, should spare them.

FINIS.

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A

LETTER

TO A

FRIEND,

Occaſion'd by the

Surrender of Mons.